

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Hyacinth Removal and Disposal on Fabian Tract

CEC-15-005

Prepared by:

for 
Mike Inthavong
Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 01/15/2015

Concurred by:

See Attachment A
Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: See Attachment A

Concurred by:

See Attachment B
Native American Affairs Specialist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: See Attachment B

Concurred by:


Shauna McDonald
Wildlife Biologist
South-Central California Area Office


Date: 01/15/2015

Recommended by:


Rain L. Emerson
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 01/15/2015

Approved by:

for 
Michael P. Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 01/15/2015



Nature of the Action

Hyacinth accumulation just upstream of the Delta-Mendota Canal is obstructing waterways and impacting operations, and needs to be removed. The San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) proposes to mechanically remove the hyacinth and place it on Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) property known as the Fabian Tract, which is located in San Joaquin County, California (Figure 1). Reclamation will be providing SLDMWA with a right-of-use access in order to perform the work and to store the removed hyacinth within the Fabian Tract for decomposition. Equipment to be used include a long-reach excavator and a dump truck; however, no new ground disturbance will be required.



Figure 1. Project Location Map

Environmental Commitments

SLDMWA will ensure that any elderberry shrubs, if present, are avoided by equipment while moving around on-site, and when the removed water hyacinth is deposited.

Environmental consequences for biological resources assume the measures specified will be fully implemented.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 Paragraph D (10) *Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau lands where the action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.*

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | No | Uncertain | Yes |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Attachment A

Reclamation's Cultural Resources Determination

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153)

MP-153 Tracking Number: 15-SCAO-063

Project Name: Hyacinth Removal from the Delta-Mendota Canal

NEPA Document: CEC-15-005

NEPA Contact: Mike Inthavong, Natural Resources Specialist

MP-153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Joanne Goodsell, Archaeologist *JG*

Date: January 15, 2015

Reclamation proposes to provide the San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) with right-of-use access to Reclamation land, known as the Fabian Tract, to facilitate the mechanical removal and disposal of water hyacinth that is currently obstructing local waterways. SLDMWA would utilize existing access roads within the Fabian Tract to access the hyacinth removal areas. Removal would be via long-reach excavator and dump truck. Removed hyacinth would be stored within the existing disposal area within the Fabian Tract until it decomposes.

Reclamation has determined that the proposed action is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such historic properties be present, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1). As such, Reclamation has no further NHPA Section 106 obligations.

This document conveys the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to the proposed action, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary.

Attachment B

Reclamation's Indian Trust Assets Determination

From: Richard Stevenson
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2014
To: Michael Inthavong
Subject: San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority Hyacinth Removal and Disposal on Reclamation Property

Michael,

I reviewed the proposed action whereby Reclamation will be issuing a license to allow San Luis and Delta-Mendota Canal Authority access to Reclamation property for the removal of Hyacinth removed from the Delta-Mendota Canal and placed on Reclamation property known as the Fabian Tract, located in San Joaquin County, for decomposition

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets.

Richard M. Stevenson
Deputy Regional Resources Manager